

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-35 are pending, and Claims 1-24 are under consideration and are rejected or objected. Applicant has amended the claims in order to recite more clearly and distinctly that which he considers to be the invention. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments are fully supported by the application as originally filed and do not raise any issues of new matter. Entry of the amendments and favorable reconsideration of the claims are respectfully requested.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the examiner's careful examination of the claims, and the indication of several formality errors.

It is respectfully submitted that the objection to claims 1-3 have been obviated by the above claim amendments.

It is further respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 1 has been obviated by the claim amendment deleting the recitation "or a derivative thereof."

Applicant further respectfully submits that the rejections of Claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2 have been overcome by the above claim amendments. For example, the recitation of "respectively" in claim 1 has been removed, and the recitations of "C-terminal" and "N-terminal tag" in claim 3 have been

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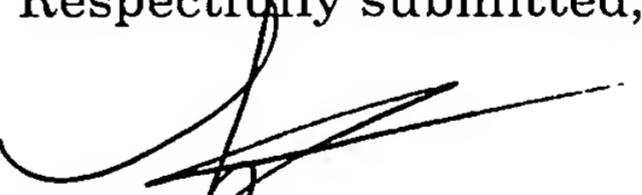
appropriately amended to “a sequence encoding a C-terminal tag” and “a sequence encoding an N-terminal tag.”

It is therefore respectfully submitted that all claims under consideration are now in condition for allowance and applicant earnestly solicits an early indication to that effect from the Examiner. If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #010988.51236US).

Respectfully submitted,

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